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An important step taken during the past year was a decision to compel the owners of grain go-downs to pave their floors in order to prevent the ingress of rats. The committee appointed by the local government to revise the Calcutta building regulations recommended that the floors of all warehouses used for the storage of articles intended for human consumption should be paved with some impermeable material. This recommendation was carried out during the year under report. There is now some hope that rats will be excluded from these centers of infection.

ITALY.

Report from Naples—Inspection of vessels and examination of emigrants at Naples and Genoa—Smallpox at Naples—Status of smallpox in Italy.

Assistant Surgeon Wollenberg reports, February 2:

Vessels inspected at Naples and Genoa, week ended January 30.

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Destination.	Steerage passengers inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage inspected and passed.	Pieces of baggage disinfectd.
Jan. 24	Barbarossa	New York	973	80	1,350
25	Italia	do			
25	Ancona	Philadelphia	1,141	70	1,650
27	Canopic	Boston	1,104	45	1,280
28	Snowdonian	New York			
28	Hamburg	do	882	90	1,450
28	Indiana	do	1,255	70	1,520
	Total		5,355	355	7,250

GENOA.

Jan. 24	Duca di Genova	New York	1,259	50	930
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Rejections recommended.

NAPLES.

Date.	Name of ship.	Trachoma.	Favus.	Suspected trachoma.	Suspected favus.	Other causes.	Total.
Jan. 24	Barbarossa	29	2	14	1	4	50
25	Italia						
25	Ancona	25	3	16	1	10	55
27	Canopic	25	3	8		4	40
28	Snowdonian						
28	Hamburg	20	2	16	1	3	42
28	Indiana	26	2	8		8	44
	Total	125	12	62	3	29	231

GENOA.

Jan. 24	Duca di Genova	24	2	14		5	45
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Smallpox in Naples.—During the week ended January 31, 29 cases of smallpox and 8 deaths were reported at the health office of the city of Naples. Total number reported during month of January, 1909, 125 cases, 17 deaths. From the time of the introduction of the disease from Marseille, June 13, 1908, the total number of cases has been 392, with 59 deaths.

Status of smallpox in Italy.—Week ended January 31.

Province of Aquila (Pescina), 1 case. Novara (Collobiano), 1 case, Brescia (Quinzanello), 1 case.

JAPAN.

Report from Kobe—Inspection of vessels—Summary of plague at Osaka and Hiogo in 1908—Plague at Nishinomiyā—Plague rats.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Knight reports, January 26:

During the week ended January 23 supplemental bills of health were granted to 4 steamships. There were inspected 188 members of crews and 4 steerage passengers. Twenty-seven members of crew were bathed and disinfected. Their effects were disinfected by steam. The number of pieces of baggage steamed was 34. Manifests were viséed for 41,346 pieces of freight, amounting to 3,311 tons.

There were 2 cases of plague with 2 deaths in Kobe January 20.

The annual report of the health department of the Japanese Government for the year 1908 shows that in the Kobe consular district there was a total of 80 cases of plague in the Osaka prefecture. The latest reported were 2 cases and 1 death December 22, 1908.

Total cases of plague at Hiogo prefecture, 255; Nara prefecture, 16; and Tokushima prefecture, 1. Plague rats during the last year: In Osaka prefecture found, 4,168; in Hiogo prefecture found, 2,047; and in Nara prefecture found, 56.

The last case of plague reported in Nishinomiyā was a single case January 6, 1909. There was reported a total of 53 cases of plague; total deaths, 47; rats caught, 13,500; rats examined, 5,078; plague rats found, 130. Quarantine has been removed, and the town is now free from plague.

MEXICO.

Report from Mexico City—Yellow fever at Merida and in vicinity.

The following is received from Dr. Eduardo Liceaga, president of the superior board of health of Mexico, under date of February 10:

During the week ended February 6, 1 death from yellow fever was reported at the city of Merida, and 1 case, 1 death at Ticul, 75 kilometers distant from Merida.

PERU.

Reports from Callao—Inspection and fumigation of vessels—Status of plague in Peru—Smallpox at Lima—Plague at Callao—Plague at Iquique, Chile.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Gutierrez reports, January 23 and 31:

Week ended January 16. Two steamships and one American schooner were fumigated. They carried an aggregate personnel of 156 members of crews, and 79 cabin and 48 steerage passengers.